

From: [Durant, Jennah](#)
To: [R6Press](#)
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Attachments: [Daily News Digest 032019.pdf](#)

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1 – Deer Park chemical fire extinguished overnight, ITC says, Houston Chronicle, 3/20/19

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Deer-Park-chemical-fire-extinguished-overnight-13702369.php>

The chemical tank fires that burned for nearly four days at the Intercontinental Terminals Co. plant in Deer Park were extinguished overnight, the company and firefighters say.

2 - Residents near fire raging at Texas chemical plant raise health concerns, CBS News, 3/19/19

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/deer-park-fire-officials-monitoring-air-quality-after-texas-chemical-plant-fire-2019-03-19/>

A chemical plant near Houston has been burning since Sunday morning. Officials said Tuesday they don't know how long it will take to burn itself out. Firefighters are trying to keep it from spreading — as thick black smoke billows into the air, hour after hour.

3 - ITC to Reuters: Chemicals from Deer Park fire have spread into nearby ship channel, Houston Chronicle, 3/19/19

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Texas-petrochemical-fire-spreads-to-more-storage-13700934.php>

The chemical fire at Intercontinental Terminals Company's Deer Park facility may create more problems to the environment. When a reporter asked if chemical runoff will go into the bay during a press conference late Tuesday afternoon, David Wascome, a senior vice president of operations for ITC, did not provide a definitive answer.

4 - Arkansas farm-permits bill progresses; authority shift given Senate nod, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/20/19

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/mar/20/farm-permits-bill-progresses-20190320/?news>

A bill that would transfer hog and other farm permitting authority from one state agency to another passed in the Arkansas Senate on Tuesday after a brief discussion over whether the bill says what its sponsor claims it says.

5 - Santa Fe opposes EPA proposed rule change, Albuquerque Journal, 3/18/19

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1293524/santa-fe-opposes-epa-proposed-rule-change.html>

The city of Santa Fe is voicing its opposition to a proposed rule change by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that would do away with protections of waterways against pollutants adopted in 2015, and it wants you to do the same.

6 – As FEMA rewrites flood insurance rules, ‘the devil’s in the details’, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/19/19

<https://www.nola.com/business/2019/03/as-fema-rewrites-flood-insurance-rules-the-devils->

[in-the-details.html](#)

New flood insurance rules that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is writing for the National Flood Insurance Program have garnered praise and alarm from Louisiana interests monitoring the changes. While more accurate mapping of flood risk is welcome, the price of coverage for some property owners might well rise.

7 – Flooding in the Midwest unlikely to impact Mississippi River levels in New Orleans, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/19/19

<https://www.nola.com/news/2019/03/flooding-in-the-midwest-unlikely-to-impact-mississippi-river-levels-in-new-orleans.html>

Mississippi River levels in New Orleans are not likely to be affected by the severe flooding that has impacted residents across four midwestern states, as rising water levels of the Missouri River breached or overtopped nearly 200 miles of levees this week.

8 - FEMA changes for flood insurance program put burden on riskiest properties, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/18/19

https://www.nola.com/national_politics/2019/03/fema-changes-for-flood-insurance-program-put-burden-on-riskiest-properties.html

Climate advocates say an overhaul of the nation's flood insurance program being unveiled by the Trump administration will spur communities around the country to better plan for extreme weather, but could drive up costs for some homeowners.

9 - Footnote sparks wrangling on endangerment finding, E&E News, 3/20/19

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1060127685>

A footnote is renewing debate on how EPA should consider its 2009 determination that greenhouse gases harm human health and welfare as it rewrites climate rules.

10 – 1 in 3 Americans blame climate change for weird winter temperatures, Washington Post, 3/20/19

<https://wapo.st/2Fgh0N3>

This winter, temperatures plunged so low in the Midwest — at times below minus-50 degrees — that mail service stalled, airline gas lines froze and Chicago set parts of its commuter rail on fire to stop the bone-deep chill from damaging the tracks.

11 – Cyanide plant would be safer under Cornerstone proposal, hazards inspector says, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/20/19

<https://www.nola.com/politics/2019/03/cyanide-plant-would-be-safer-under-cornerstone-proposal-hazards-inspector-says.html>

Jefferson Parish's top hazardous materials officer predicted Tuesday (March 19) that the Cornerstone Chemical Co. complex at Waggaman would "absolutely" be safer under the company's plans to upgrade equipment and technology while building a new \$100 million cyanide plant there.

12 – State water agency to double aquifer pumping fees; cost will be less than \$2 a month per family, Baton Rouge Advocate, 3/19/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/environment/article_18cd42f8-4a7c-11e9-a4f2-8333ce387082.html

The local groundwater board intends to double the fees for water pumped for residential and industrial use in an effort to secure more funding to protect the aquifer beneath Baton Rouge.

13 – After Outage, Gold King Mine Wastewater Plant Back In Operation, CBS Denver, 3/19/19

<https://denver.cbslocal.com/2019/03/18/gold-king-mine-wastewater-plant-snowstorm/>

A plant that treats wastewater draining from the Gold King Mine in southwestern Colorado has resumed operating after being shut down by a winter storm that struck the area this past week. The New Mexico Environment Department announced Saturday afternoon that it received word from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the facility was back up and running.